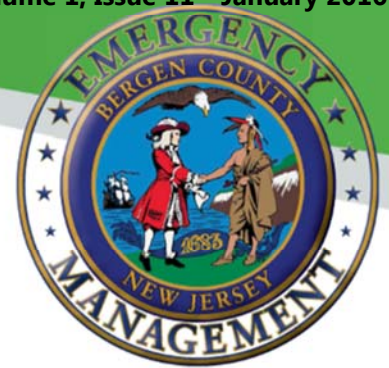


# The Civilian Responder

Volume 1, Issue 11~ January 2016



## CERT Class 15-02 Graduates

Thirty four new CERT members, representing thirteen municipal CERT Teams, graduated on December 2, 2015 from CERT Class 15-02. This was the first revised training class which included two nights of classroom and practical first aid training, light search and rescue and a practical final exercise. The graduation featured keynote speaker Detective Steven McDonald of the New York City Police Department who was shot in the line of duty and paralyzed from the neck down. Detective McDonald gave a moving talk to the graduates and their guests about his experiences and how forgiving the fifteen year old who shot him has allowed him to move on. Also attending the graduation ceremony was County Executive James Tedesco, Freeholder Maura DeNicola, and Public Safety Director Ralph Rivera.

**2016**

**Training Opportunities**

- ◇ POD Exercise
- ◇ Mental First Aid
- ◇ Basic CERT Training
- ◇ Shelter Fundamentals




**Bergen County CERT**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE	
Western Shelter	2
CERT ID Cards	2
River Vale CERT	3
CERT Training Schedule	3
16-01 Training	4

Detective McDonald reads from a newspaper article which was printed at the time his son was christened (His 23 year old wife was three months pregnant when he was shot). The newspaper headline reads: **Officer Steven McDonald: "I Am the Luckiest Man"**

# North Arlington and Mahwah CERT Designated To Assist Health Department



**Members of the Mahwah CERT Team take a break from training on the Western Shelter System.**

Two municipal CERT teams have stepped up to assist the Bergen County Health Department with the deployment of the Western Shelter System. Representing the southern end of the county is North Arlington CERT and from the northern end of the county Mahwah CERT answered the call. The Western Shelter system is a configuration of three interlocking tents and two trailers. These tents, much the same as military combat operating rooms, are insulated, have full heat and air conditioning and overhead florescent lighting all provided by a stand alone generator.

Members of the Mahwah CERT team have completed the first phase of training having set-up the tent structures. Training will continue with both CERT teams in February when CERT, working with our partners in the health department and New Jersey EMS Task Force will set-up the Western Tent system for a three day exercise. The exercise will include the use of a sleeping, dining and a leisure tent and inter-connected. As a CERT member you will be offered an opportunity to participate in this exercise. CERT members will be required to assist with setting up sleeping quarters, registering volunteers, and food service. Additionally, CERT members will be needed to spend time living in the Western Shelter during this three day event. The tentative date for this event is the weekend of February 27, 2016.

## **CERT ID CARD SCHEDULE**

OEM will process CERT identification cards on Thursdays from 9am to noon, 1pm to 3pm and 4pm to 8pm. No appointment is necessary however CERT members are encouraged to contact Meredith Martin at 201-785-5750 or [martin@bcoem.org](mailto:martin@bcoem.org) in advance to confirm that an identification application has been completed and placed in the database.

## River Vale CERT Receives Radio Communications Training

The November meeting of the River Vale CERT team included a very interesting presentation by Stan Kober of Ho-Ho-Kus. Stan discussed all phases of radio communications that involve CERT members and RACES. A quote from one of our members after the meeting was as follows: "The meeting last night was fantastic. So informative. I really loved it. Sorry to see Stan retire, but I'm sure he deserves a rest."

At the conclusion of the program, Linda Wayne and Bill Peters presented a plaque to Stan, in recognition of all of his dedication and hard work over the years.



River Vale CERT members Linda Wayne and Bill Peters present Stan Kober with a plaque in recognition of his dedication and hard work over the years to the CERT Program. The plaque reads ***Presented to Stan Kober With Sincere Appreciation for your Exceptional Dedication to the Operations, Training and Support of the Bergen County CERT Program.***

*River Vale CERT Team—November 2015*

POD Exercise	Thursday, January 14	8am to 1pm	Mahwah
Mental Health First Aid*	Saturday, January 23 & 30	8:30am to 12:30pm	Mahwah
	(*Attendance both sessions required)		
CERT Basic Class 16-01	Tuesday, February 2	7pm to 9:30 pm	Mahwah
Shelter Fundamentals	Thursday, February 18	6:30pm to 10:30pm	Mahwah
Shelter Fundamentals	Saturday, February 20	9am to 1pm	Mahwah
<b><u>REGISTRATION:</u></b>			
EMAIL: Evelyn Powell at <a href="mailto:powell@bcoem.org">powell@bcoem.org</a> - All classes are offered on a first come, first serve basis			



**Bergen County  
Office of Emergency Management**

Thomas Metzler, CEM, Director  
 Matthew Tiedemann, CEM, Coordinator  
 Ronald Salzano, CEM Deputy Coordinator  
 Matthew Ziemkiewicz, CHS, Deputy Coordinator

Meredith Martin, Planning  
 Barry Leventhal, Training & Operations  
 Thomas Rose, EMS Coordinator  
 Evelyn Powell, Executive Assistant

Phone: 201-785-5757  
 Fax: 201-785-8571



Bergen County Executive  
 James J. Tedesco III  
 Bergen County Freeholders  
 Chairwoman Joan Voss  
 Vice Chairman Steve Tanelli  
 Chairman Pro Tempore John A. Felice  
 Maura R. DeNicola  
 David L. Ganz  
 Thomas J. Sullivan, Jr.  
 Tracy Silna Zur

*Does your CERT Team have a story for a  
 future issue of  
 The Civilian Responder?*

*E-mail it to:  
 metzler@bcoem.org*



**County Executive James Tedesco III addresses CERT Class 15-02 on December 2, 2015**

**Basic CERT Training Class begins February 2, 2016**

Bergen County Emergency Management will kick off the Basic CERT Training Class 16-01 on Tuesday, February 2, 2016 at 7:30pm at the Public Life Safety Institute in Mahwah. New this year students can register on line by visiting the county OEM website. Classes will be as follows:

Date	Topic
02/02/16 Tuesday	CERT & Disaster Preparedness
02/09/16 Tuesday	ICS 100 / 700
02/16/16 Tuesday	Disaster Medical Operations Classroom
02/23/16 Tuesday	Disaster Medical Operations Practical
03/01/16 Tuesday	Terrorism Awareness
03/08/16 Tuesday	Disaster Psychology
03/15/16 Tuesday	Disaster Fire Suppression PowerPoint
03/22/16 Tuesday	Disaster Fire Suppression Practical
03/29/16 Tuesday	Light Search & Rescue Operations
04/05/16 Tuesday	Final Exam/Practical Exercise
04/12/16 Tuesday	
04/19/16 Tuesday	<b>Graduation</b>